Promotion of textile exports

*17. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any incentives to the textile sector to promote exports during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of value of exports made by the country during this period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has been taking a number of steps from time to time to promote textile exports. Some of the important initiatives taken are given as under:—

i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route.

ii) The Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.

iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

iv) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). Incentives are provided for better farm practices, quality seeds, improvement in market infrastructure and modernisation of ginning & pressing sector.

v) To provide the industry with world class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units, a new scheme namely, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks' has been launched by merging existing two schemes *i.e.* Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) and Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme (APES). Govt. of India support under the scheme by way of grant or equity shall be limited to 40% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40 crores.

vi) 'Apparel Park for Exports Scheme (APES)' was launched with the

objective of imparting a focused thrust for setting up apparel units of international standards at potential growth centres, and to give a fillip to exports. Under APES, 12 projects have been sanctioned with an estimated support from Government of India of Rs. 191.70 crores. Against the support of Rs. 191.70 crores, the Govt. has released Rs. 59.46 crores so far.

vii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, the 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS)' was launched. Under TCIDS, 18 projects have been sanctioned with an estimated support from Government of India of Rs. 270.80 crores. Of this, the Govt. has released Rs. 52.57 crores.

viii) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given an option of excise exemption.

ix) The import of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make our textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.

x) For the speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced, *w.e.f.* 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

xi) The National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its seven branches, and the Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet the skilled manpower requirements of the textile industry, especially apparel, in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

xii) Facilities like eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get garments/textiles pre-tested so that they conform to the requirements of the importing countries.

(c) Textile exports during last three years are as under:—

(Value in US$ billion)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05(P)
Textile Exports	12.41	13.50	13.04

(P)—Provisional
Source:—DGCIS, Kolkata

Promotion of non-conventional energy sources

*18. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes for promotion of non-conventional energy sources in the country;

(b) what is the role of the Central Government and the State Governments in their promotion;

(c) what incentives are being given to end users; and

(d) what were the targets for the Tenth Plan and what are the achievements and shortfalls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) There are various schemes/programmes for deployment of non-conventional energy systems/devices across the country. The major deployment schemes/programmes are grid interactive renewable power; distributed renewable power generation systems; remote village electrification programme; urban industrial applications. These apart, support for R&D in new and renewable energy is also provided.

(b) The main role of the Central Government is to lay down priorities and policies and provide support for deployment of non-conventional energy systems/devices. The State Governments assist in implementation of the same apart from providing matching budgetary support.